

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS )  
35906-35910 INCLUSIVE FILED FOR )  
THE WATERS OF AN UNDERGROUND ) R U L I N G  
SOURCE IN MESQUITE VALLEY, )  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA )

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INTRODUCTION

Applications 35906-35910 inclusive were filed on September 22, 1978, by Osvaldo Tise, Jorge O. and Vivian S. Tise, Ruben L., Ester B. and Elio R. Guzman, Olga Falcon, Leandro Adrian Fernandez, Pedro and Martha G. Lorenzo, and Orlando Fornaris.

Application 35906 is to appropriate 2.4 c.f.s. of the water of an underground source to be diverted within the NW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M. and to be used for the irrigation of 10 acres and domestic purposes within the SE 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22 T.23S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M.

Application 35907 is to appropriate 2.4 c.f.s. of the waters of an underground source to be diverted within the NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M. and to be used for the irrigation of 10 acres and domestic purposes within the SE 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 23, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M.

Application 35908 is to appropriate 2.4 c.f.s. of the waters of an underground source to be diverted within the NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 23, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M. and to be used for the irrigation of 10 acres and domestic purposes within the SW 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M.

Application 35909 is to appropriate 2.4 c.f.s. of the waters of an underground source to be diverted within the NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R. 56E., M.D.B. & M. and to be used for the irrigation of 10 acres and domestic purposes within the NE 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M.

Application 35910 is to appropriate 2.4 c.f.s. of the waters of an underground source to be diverted within the NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M. and to be used for the irrigation of 10 acres and domestic purposes within the SW 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 22, T.24S., R.56E., M.D.B. & M.

In 1968, Water Resources - Reconnaissance Series Report #46, "Water Resources Appraisal of Mesquite - Ivanpah Valley Area, Nevada and California", by Patrick A. Glancy, was prepared cooperatively by the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources and U. S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey. This report is available from the State Engineer's office.

FINDINGS OF FACT

I

The source of water to be used to reclaim lands under Applications 35906-35910 incl. is water from an underground source within the Mesquite Valley Ground Water Basin, Clark County, Nevada. 1/

II

Ground water recharge in the Mesquite Valley area is derived mainly from precipitation within the area. The estimated annual recharge to the Mesquite Valley ground water reservoir is 2,200 acre-feet; 1,500 acre-feet of this is derived from precipitation and 700 acre-feet is underflow from Pahrump Valley to the northwest. 2/

III

Estimated average annual ground water consumption in Mesquite Valley due to development was 1,400 acre-feet in 1968. Nearly all of this development was in the California portion of the valley. 3/ Since 1968, the Nevada State Engineer has issued permits to appropriate an additional 1,710 acre-feet per year from the Nevada portion of the basin. Total existing ground water rights in the Nevada portion amount to 2,300 acre-feet per year. 4/

IV

There is potential for additional ground water development in the California portion of Mesquite Valley.

V

Should additional water be allowed for appropriation for the reclamation of lands under Applications 35906-35910 inclusive and subsequent development of ground water pursuant thereto detrimentally affect prior ground rights, the State Engineer is required by law to order withdrawals be restricted to conform to priority rights. 5/

VI

The Pahrump Valley Artesian Basin is presently over-appropriated. Expected continued heavy use of ground water in Pahrump Valley may cause a reduction of ground water under flow to Mesquite Valley. 6/

CONCLUSIONS

1. The State Engineer is prohibited by law from granting a permit where:
  - A. There is no unappropriated water at the proposed source, or
  - B. The proposed use conflicts with existing rights, or
  - C. The proposed use threatens to prove detrimental to the public welfare. 7/

2. If the subject applications were granted, additional lands would be irrigated. This would result in additional consumptive use by farmland irrigation. The additional withdrawals and consumption would remove water from the ground water reservoir which would not be replaced resulting in depletion of the ground water reservoir. The additional withdrawals and consumption of underground water for irrigation would, therefore, conflict with existing rights and threaten to prove detrimental to the public welfare.

RULING

Applications 35906-35910 inclusive are hereby denied on the grounds that their granting would tend to impair the value of existing rights and be otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.

Respectfully submitted,

*William J. Newman*

William J. Newman  
State Engineer

WJN/TJS/jm

Date this 2nd day

of MAY 1979

FOOTNOTES

1. Public Records in the State Engineer's office.
2. Water Resources Reconnaissance Series Report #46, pp. 24, 30.
3. Water Resources Reconnaissance Series Report #46, pp. 31, 32.
4. Public Records in the State Engineer's office.
5. NRS 534.110, subsections 3 and 6.
6. Public Records in the State Engineer's office.
7. NRS 533.370, subsection 4.